

CLAIMS

1. A personal protection device comprising a resilient structure which, in use, surrounds a bodypart of the user, the energy from an impact by a first surface being transmitted through the structure from the impact side to the other side(s) and dissipated to an external second surface with which the structure is in contact.
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2. A personal protection device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resilient structure is a rigid frame.
- 10 3. A personal protection device as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the resilient structure is a one piece structure.
4. A personal protection device as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the resilient structure comprises two or more interconnectable parts.
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5. A personal protection device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the structure is contoured and/or shaped to the bodypart.
- 20 6. A personal protection device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the bodypart is the upper torso.
7. A personal protection device according to Claim 6, wherein the device comprises first and second rigid hoops each of which, in use, passes over one of a

user's shoulder and beneath the user's arms.

8. A personal protection device according to Claim 7, wherein the first and second hoops are rigidly interconnected.

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9. A personal protection device according to Claim 8, further comprising front and rear cross-members interconnecting the first and second hoops.

10. A personal protection device according to Claim 9, wherein at least one of the cross-members includes a releasable coupling releasable to allow relative movement of the first and second hoops.

11. A personal protection device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Figures 1 to 3 and/or Figure 4 of the accompanying drawings.

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